

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 remain in the application unchanged. Claim 17 has been amended. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action dated 12/15/2004, the Examiner rejected claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Gervais, U.S. Patent No. 6,373,556 (hereinafter "Gervais '556"). This claim has been amended and is now believed to be in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-16 have been allowed and remain in the application unchanged.

The Rejection of Claim 17

As noted above, claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Gervais '556. For the following reasons, Applicants believe that this reference does not disclose or suggest the combination of elements in Applicants' claim 17.

Gervais '556 is directed to an x-ray transparency scanner (10) comprising a conventional flatbed scanner (1) in the lid thereof and a light box (12) opposite thereto. The light box (12) contains a platen (18) and at least two lamps (28, 29). In operation, an x-ray transparency (17) is placed on the platen (18) of the light box (12), the lamps (28, 29) and the conventional scanner (1) are turned on just prior to scanning the x-ray transparency (17), the x-ray transparency (17) is scanned, and then the lamps (28, 29) and the conventional scanner (1) are immediately turned off.

Gervais '556 does not disclose or suggest placing a transparent media on a mounting device of a transparency adapter (Applicants' claim 17, element a). Instead, an x-ray transparency is simply placed on a platen (18). Nor does Gervais '556 disclose or suggest utilizing a transparency adapter in a light table operating state to orient a transparent media to an input orientation, wherein the transparency adapter in the light table operating state illuminates the transparent media with a stationary light source for viewing (Applicants' claim 17, element b). Instead, Gervais '556 suggests turning on the lamps (28, 29) in the light box (12) just prior to scanning an x-ray transparency (17), and then turning off the lamps (28, 29) immediately after scanning. In fact, Gervais '556 teaches against using the lamps (28, 29) for any other purpose besides scanning and cautions against leaving the lamps (28, 29) on for an extended period of time. In column 4, lines 28-33, Gervais '556 suggests including a thermostwitch that would shut down the system if the lamps (28, 29) are left on too long.

For at least these reasons, Applicants believe that claim 17 is now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

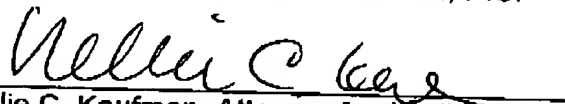
For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants believe that all of the pending claims (claims 1-17) are allowable over the cited references. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the application and grant an early allowance.

Should there be any questions regarding this Amendment, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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